(b) when the first prototype test is scheduled;

(c) what is the cost of this project; and

(d) what is the position of the indigenous engine for LCA?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (DR. RAJA RAMANNA): (a) The Project Definition Phase of the LCA has been completed. The detailed documents have been studied by the users/experts. The approach now proposed is to proceed ahead with LCA development in two phases. The first phase would involve development of two prototypes in order to prove advanced technologies being incorporated in the LCA. Based on the progress of Phase I, clearance for Phase II involving development and productionisation would be progressed. The proposal for design, development and production of two prototypes during Phase I is under examination of the management of Aeronautical Development Agency.

(b) In view of the approach indicated above, the first flight of the first prototypes is planned in the year 1995.

(c) The project cost for launching of the first phase is being worked out. The total cost of the project for development is, however, estimated to be Rs. 3000 crores at 1989 price level.

(d) A project for design and development of indigenous engine viz. GTX-35VS was sanctioned in March. 89. Design and test activities on components are in progress. Core engine layout has been completed. Forging drawings for the core engine components, excluding turbine and compressor, have been finalised.

Modification in sports guidelines

113. SHRI SURESH KALMADI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Guidelines on Sports are being revised; and

(b) whether Government propose to call a meeting of the Indian Olympic Association and the National Federations to discuss the modification of the Guidelines?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (PROF. M. G. K. MENON): (a) No, Sir.

(b) There is presently no proposal to call such a meeting.

Air Crashes in the IAF

114. SHRI SURESH KALMADI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) what is the number of air crashes in the IAF during the last three years;

(b) what are the reasons for the accident rate being so alarmingly high; and

(c) what steps have been taken by Government to implement the L'Fontaine Report?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (DR. RAJA RAMANNA): (a) and (b) The accident rate in the IAF is not alarmingly high. It has been registering a gradual downward trend over the last 3 years. It would not be in the public interest to disclose information regarding the number of crashes.